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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/665,110	09/16/2003	Robert F. Rioux	2024728-7030030000 (03-00)	6130

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Bingham McCuthen, LLP
Suite 1800
Three Embarcadero
San Francisco, CA 94111-4067

EXAMINER

LACYK, JOHN P

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
3736	

DATE MAILED: 02/24/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/665,110

Applicant(s)

RIOUX ET AL.

Examiner

John P Lacyk

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☐ Responsive to communication(s) filed on ____.
- 2a) ☐ This action is FINAL. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-26 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) ____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) ____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-26 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) ____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) ____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on ____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
- ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 - ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. ____.
 - ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date 9/16/03; 12/13/04.
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. ____.
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: ____.

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1. The drawings are objected to under 37 CFR 1.83(a). The drawings must show every feature of the invention specified in the claims. Therefore, the electrodes of claims 8-9, 17-18 must be shown or the feature(s) canceled from the claim(s). No new matter should be entered.

Corrected drawing sheets in compliance with 37 CFR 1.121(d) are required in reply to the Office action to avoid abandonment of the application. Any amended replacement drawing sheet should include all of the figures appearing on the immediate prior version of the sheet, even if only one figure is being amended. The figure or figure number of an amended drawing should not be labeled as "amended." If a drawing figure is to be canceled, the appropriate figure must be removed from the replacement sheet, and where necessary, the remaining figures must be renumbered and appropriate changes made to the brief description of the several views of the drawings for consistency. Additional replacement sheets may be necessary to show the renumbering of the remaining figures. Each drawing sheet submitted after the filing date of an application must be labeled in the top margin as either "Replacement Sheet" or "New Sheet" pursuant to 37 CFR 1.121(d). If the changes are not accepted by the examiner, the applicant will be notified and informed of any required corrective action in the next Office action. The objection to the drawings will not be held in abeyance.

2. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

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A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

3. Claims 1-6 and 10 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Dann.

Dann discloses a system for treating tissue having a source of magnetic beads (46, column 3, lines 14-16), a first elongate member (28) that is placed into the target tissue region and a magnet (30) at the distal end, and a source of energy for delivering energy for treating the tissue. Dann teaches, column 3, lines 29-65, the use of the source of energy to treat the tissue and that the thermal therapy is supplemented by energy delivered from the beads (46). Dann also teaches the use of a second elongate member (40) having a sharpened distal tip (42) for introducing the beads (46).

4. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

5. Claims 11-16, 19-26 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Dann in view of Chen et al.

Dann discloses the claimed method for treating and/or ablating tissue within a target area, except for generating a magnetic field within the target tissue to cause the magnetic beads to migrate to a desired location within the tissue. Chen et al discloses

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a similar device that uses magnetic beads to enhance therapy at a treatment area to necrose tissue at the treatment area and discloses the use of a magnetic field generated within the treatment area such that the magnetic beads migrate towards the magnetic field. Therefore a modification of Dann to use such a magnetic field to migrate the beads towards the magnetic field would have been obvious since this would provide a greater concentration of the magnetic beads in the treatment region allowing for a more effective treatment by applying more of the heating to the only the desired treatment area.

6. Claims 7-9, 17-18 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Dann in view of Langberg.

Dann discloses the claimed device except for using microwave energy instead of electrical energy using electrodes to treat the tissue. Langberg discloses a catheter inserted into the body to treat tissue and discloses (column 1, lines 20-40) that it is known to use both electrical energy from an electrode catheter or microwave energy from a microwave catheter to treat tissue. Therefore a modification of Dann such that the microwave energy source is substituted with an energy source using electrodes would have been obvious to one skilled in the art at the time of the invention since both are well known functional equivalents in that both are used to deliver energy to a treatment area within the body to heat the area and necrose the tissue.

7. Claims 1-6, 10-16, 19-26 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Chen et al.

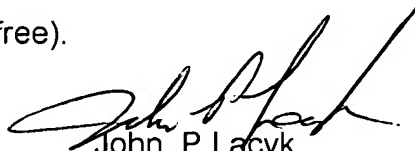
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Chen et al discloses a system and method for treating tissue by introducing a source of magnetic beads (116) into the target tissue by a second elongate member (140), a first elongate member (100) has a magnet at its distal end for inducing a magnetic field within the target tissue to cause the magnetic beads to migrate towards the tissue, and provides a source of energy to treat the tissue (102, 126).

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to John P Lacyk whose telephone number is 571-272-4728. The examiner can normally be reached on Mon-Fri, 8:30-5:00.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Max Hindenburg can be reached on 571-272-4726. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).


John P Lacyk
Primary Examiner
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J.P. Lacyk